taken for the dilligence by the prospective bidders, finalization of agreements etc.

Guidelines on Fuel Import

1441. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently framed the guidelines on fuel import under duty exemption scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the revised scheme would be disadvantageous to the exporters; and

(d) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken to help the exporters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir Government has decided to allow fuel under Standard Input Output Norms (SION) for Advance Licensing Scheme, wherein fuel constitutes more than 15% of the total cost of manufacturing.

(c) and (d) Since fuel has hitherto not normally been allowed under SION, it is expected that allowing fuel under the Norms shall be advantageous to the manufacturer wherein fuel constitutes as significant part of production cost by reducing the cost of production itself. This would make Indian products more competitve in the international market.

Inevitability of Export for Auto Industry

†1442. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Auto industry in the country had been acquianted of the inevitability of export while granting approval for production;

(b) what is the percentage of toal production which had been set as export obligation for industry;

(c) whether exports have been made in conformity with the fixed import obligations during the remaining period of the current year; and

(d) if not, the reaons therefor and to what extent exports have been made so far?

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.